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ABSTRACT

This resource guide represents the first comprehensive guide to the innovative practices of accelerated schools. It is designed to be used by a wide variety of participants as a supplement for training, as well as for discussion and guidance in the move to transform schools nationwide. Eleven chapters include detailed descriptions of the accelerated schools philosophy and process, rich vignettes, case studies, and examples from actual accelerated schools, in addition to drawings, exercises, and additional resources. Chapters: (1) provide a rationale for having accelerated schools; (2) outline the philosophies and processes of these schools, including getting them started, the crucial nature of problem solving, and the inquiry process; (3) show how accelerated schools' principles and values relate to effective collaboration; (4) describe the changes in teaching, learning, and family involvement that have occurred in accelerated schools as a result of using their philosophy and process; (5) discuss the beliefs about powerful learning strategies as presently provided to gifted and talented children; (6) offer examples of how families and communities become involved in their accelerated school communities; and (7) suggest tips on school assessment. An appendix examines the inquiry process. (Contains over 150 references.) (GLR)

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